

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 21/93/99

12 August 1999

Further information on UA 205/99 (ASA 21/92/99, 11 August 1999) - Fear for safety/arbitrary detention/possible "disappearance"

EAST TIMOR

In police custody:  
Emiliano da Silva Guterres, 24

New Name  
Januario da Silva Belo, student

Missing:  
Armando Martins  
Afonso da Silva Guterres  
Augusto da Cruz  
Egas Moniz  
Jacinto

Killed:  
Carlos Sarmento  
Mario Soares

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Amnesty International has learnt that Januario da Silva Belo, coordinator of the Student Solidarity Council of East Timor (*Dewan Solidaritas Mahasiswa Timor Timur*, DSMTT), in Viqueque District, East Timor, has been arrested since the attacks on the DSMTT's Viqueque office by the local militia group, 59/75 Juniors.

Januario da Silva Belo was arrested by police on 11 August and is being held in police custody in Viqueque. The precise reason for his arrest is not clear and he is not known to have been charged. It is believed, however, that his arrest is connected to his peaceful role as the coordinator of the DSMTT in Viqueque and that he is thought to be perceived by the authorities as responsible for all students in Viqueque.

Januario da Silva Belo has faced threats and intimidation for his political activities since 1998. Between February and April 1999, members of the militia group *Aitarak* (Thorn), came looking for him at his home in the capital of East Timor, Dili, three times. On one of these occasions, Januario da Silva Belo was not there, but the militia threatened to arrest and kill his younger brother.

It has now been confirmed that two students, Carlos Sarmento and Mario Soares, were killed during yesterday's militia attack on the DSMTT office. There are unconfirmed reports that another two students were shot and wounded.

Two female students, Julia Aquino and Amelia de Jesus, reported missing yesterday, are now known to be safe.

It is now known that as well as attacking the DSMTT office, 59/75 Juniors also attacked, and reportedly destroyed, the Viqueque office of the National Council of Timorese Resistance (*Conselho Nacional da Resistência Timorese*, CNRT).

Also on 11 August, a militia group is believed to have attempted to attack the DSMTT office in Manatuto District.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia or English or in your own language:**

- urging the authorities to ensure that Januario da Silva Belo has immediate, regular and continuing access to independent legal counsel, and to provide guarantees for his safety in custody;

- urging that he be immediately and unconditionally released if he is not to be charged with a recognisably criminal offence;
- urging the authorities to ensure there is a full and impartial investigation into the attacks on the DSMTT office and the death of the two students and that those believed responsible are promptly brought to justice.

**APPEALS TO:**

Chief of Police for East Timor

Col. GM Timbul Silaen

Kapolda Timor Timur

Dili

East Timor

Indonesia

**Faxes: + 62 390 321 544 / 321 690**

**Salutation: Dear Sir**

**COPIES TO:**

**CHIEF OF NATIONAL POLICE**

Gen. Roesmanhadi

Kapolri

Markas Besar Kepolisian RI

Jl. Trunojoyo 13

Kebayoran Baru

Jakarta Selatan

Indonesia

**Fax: 62 21 720 7277**

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 23 September 1999.